2. Rock Inscription Bisolia (District Bhilwara)
3. Ancient ruins and structural remains Krishnavila Barun
4. Chittorgarh Fort:
   (i) Kirthi Stambha
   (ii) Parswanatha Temples
5. Group of Temples, Jaisalmer

Effects of pollution on Ajanta and Ellora Caves

772. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recent study by Geological Survey of India has revealed that noise and other pollution are making drastic effects on Ajanta and Ellora Caves;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to save these caves from pollution?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) Geological Survey of India has carried out geo-scientific studies for the conservation of Ajanta and Ellora Caves. Their studies were not specifically made for problems related to noise and other pollution studies. However, one chapter relates to the environmental studies wherein it is stated that no alarming and negative impact is caused due to noise and other pollution to Ajanta and Ellora Caves.

(c) The following measures are taken by the survey to save these caves from pollution:-

Ajanta Caves:- Shops located at the foot of the hill have been shifted at 4 kilometres from the Caves.

Parking of general vehicals has been shifted to a new complex 4 km away. Only pollution free transport vehicles are used for visitors to Ajanta Caves.

Generator was shifted from Cave No. 8 to a safe distance.

Ellora Caves:- A new diversion road was provided and made functional and presently no heavy vehicular traffic is permitted on the road to the caves. Noise and other pollution is checked to a great extent.